

Message from Governor Linda Lingle

July 4, 2008

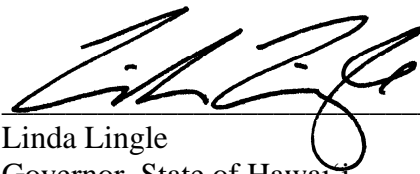
Aloha and Happy Independence Day!

On this day 232 years ago, 56 American patriots signed the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This important document has shaped our nation, our world and our lives, resulting in the freedom, opportunity and democracy we all enjoy today.

As we celebrate this historic event each year, it is important to reflect on how our freedom was made possible. Many of America's bravest men and women have sacrificed their lives in war so that we may live in peace. Throughout American history and to this day, courageous men and women have willingly answered the call to defend our inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Whether you are watching fireworks displays, barbequing with family or celebrating in other ways today, I hope you and your 'ohana enjoy this holiday and take time to reflect on its significance, while keeping our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, stationed around the world, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Lingle', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawaii